



*Welcome to St. Athanasius the Great  
Byzantine Catholic Church*

*“Glory to Jesus Christ! Slava Isusu Christu!”*

*“Glory to Him Forever! Slava Naviki Bohu!”*

We welcome all to the Divine Services at our parish. Our restrooms are in the Dormition Hall behind the Rectory next door. On Sundays, after Divine Liturgy, our potluck luncheon is open to everyone, especially our guests. Come join us for fellowship.

***During the Great Lent, Christians prepare themselves through fasting, confession, prayer, almsgiving, frequent services, and all spiritual struggles, to be resurrected from their passions and sins.  
Food served at the Sunday luncheons during Lent are meatless.***

***“Whoever would be great among you must be the servant of all.”***  
Fr. Paul Tarrazi

### **Need to request an appointment with Father?**

Father is available for confession or spiritual direction by appointment, and he welcomes you to contact him whenever you need him.

### **Prayers for the sick or other intentions:**

If you have a special intention for the sick, birthdays, deceased, need to request a Liturgy or other service to be offered for someone please give a note, text or call Father at 216-532-6364.

### **Opportunities to Help with Fundraising...we are called into service**

At this time, our parish is unable to exist without fundraising initiatives. Our most successful venture over the years has proved to be the traditional pierogi and European baked goods made in our commercial kitchen and sold at the various local Farmers' Market venues. **Volunteers are always needed to help with the baking and selling.** Cleaning the work areas and equipment are also welcomed opportunities to serve (can be an evening after work). **You are always needed, even if it is for a couple of hours.**

***Please contact John Danovich, (317) 538-7444, to schedule a workable day and time (Tuesday through Saturday) for you and/or your family.***

### **Opportunities For Service At St. Athanasius**

- Sellers are needed for the Saturday Carmel market to free up those who are baking all week.
- Pierogi pinchers and bakers are always needed (Tues through Friday). ***Pascha bread baking has started.***
- ***The packaging and mailing of off-site orders for Pascha bread and other baked goods, particularly between now and Pascha, needs to be managed. Without this help we will not be able to accommodate orders and will lose that income. Please check out the specifics on what is needed and make time in your schedule to help fill this need.***
- Our worship space needs to be kept maintained; plants watered, candles filled, carpet vacuumed.
- Our social space needs to be kept clean and organized, including bathrooms.
- Items for the food pantry are always needed; (food, cans with pop tops, toiletries, gloves, hats, scarves, socks, hand warmers).
- Bags for the food pantry need to be assembled.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**THE GREAT FAST BEGAN MONDAY FEB12 AND CONTINUES TO PASCHA.**

These directives are from <https://parma.org/news/directives-for-lent>  
 Canon 880: 2. **Strict abstinence** is to be observed on **the first day of the Great Fast and on Great Friday. Simple abstinence** is to be observed on **Wednesdays and Fridays of the Great Fast.**

Strict abstinence forbids the use of meat and dairy products, including eggs.  
Simple abstinence forbids the use of meat and meat products. The laws of strict and simple abstinence bind all the faithful of the Eparchy of Parma.

Expectant and nursing mothers, infants, those with serious health conditions, and those under physician’s orders are exempt from the laws of strict abstinence.

**Read more:** **THE GREAT LENT A TRADITIONAL CUSTOM OF THE BYZANTINE RITE** <https://archpitt.org/the-great-lent-a-traditional-custom-of-the-byzantine-rite/>

**Clean-up Day**

Thank you to all those who provided help on Saturday’s clean-up May God grant you many years.

**STEWARDSHIP APPEAL**

Please consider making a sacrificial gift to this year’s Appeal that reflects the importance of the Church in your life and in the lives of those close to you. The Eparchy needs your support. Your gift will make a positive difference, such as: Development of Parishes, Vocations and Seminarian Education, The Works of the Apostolate and Retired Priests of the Eparchy.

**2024 ByzanTEEN Rally**

The Rally will take place in San Diego on **June 27-30, 2024**. Registration for the event will be open on Jan 20<sup>th</sup>, and we are thrilled to invite all teens in your parish ages 13-17. The price for the event weekend is \$380.

*Thank you to those who recently donated to the food pantry: cereal, carton milk, peanut butter and crackers, soup, tuna, spaghettios, etc May God grant you many blessings for your charity.*

Services for the Week of March 17 – March 24, 2024				
Day		Time	Service	Readings
Sunday 5th Sunday of the Great Fast	March 17 St Mary of Egypt	8:15 AM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM 1:00 PM	Matins Divine Liturgy Luncheon, ECF Vespers	Heb 9:11-14 Mk 10:32-45
Monday 6th Week of the Great Fast	March 18 Cyril of Jerusalem Archbishop	6:00 PM	Psalter: Kathisma 17&18 Psalms 118-133	Gen 27:1-41 Prov 19:16-25
Tuesday	March 19 Chrythanus & Daria Martyrs	6:00 PM	Psalter: Kathisma 19&20 Psalms 134-150 Jesus Prayer	Gen 31:3-16 Prov 21:3-21
Wednesday	March 20 Venerable Fathers of St. Sabbas Monastery	6:00 PM	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy	Gen 43:25-30, 45:1-16 Prov 21:23-22:4
Thursday	March 21 James of Cantania Bishop-Confessor	6:00 PM	Great Compline	Gen 46:1-7 Prov 23:15-24:5
Friday	March 22 Basil of Ancyra Priest-Martyr	6:00 PM	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy	Gen 49:33- 50:26 Prov 31:8-31
Saturday	March 23 Saturday of Lazarus	9:00 AM 5:00 PM	Divine Liturgy Vespers Confessions	Heb 12:28-13:8 Jn 11:1-45
Sunday	March 24 Palm Sunday	8:15 AM 10:00 AM 11:30 AM 1:00 PM	Matins Divine Liturgy Luncheon Ukrainian Divine Liturgy	Phil 4:4-9 Jn 12:1-18

**Financial Report 3/10/2024**

Date	Bakery Sales	Building Fund	Candle	Holy Day	Sunday Tithes	Weekly Total
3/10	\$1,465.10		\$43.00		\$1,145.14	\$2,653.24

## 5th Sunday of the Great Fast

### Hebrews 9:11-14

**The Blood of Christ** <sup>11</sup> But when Christ came as high priest of the good things that are now already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation. <sup>12</sup> He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption. <sup>13</sup> The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. <sup>14</sup> How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

### Mark 10:32-45

**Jesus Predicts His Death a Third Time** <sup>32</sup> They were on their way up to Jerusalem, with Jesus leading the way, and the disciples were astonished, while those who followed were afraid. Again, he took the Twelve aside and told them what was going to happen to him. <sup>33</sup> “We are going up to Jerusalem,” he said, “and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will hand him over to the Gentiles, <sup>34</sup> who will mock him and spit on him, flog him and kill him. Three days later he will rise.”

**The Request of James and John** <sup>35</sup> Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. “Teacher,” they said, “we want you to do for us whatever we ask.” <sup>36</sup> “What do you want me to do for you?” he asked. <sup>37</sup> They replied, “Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory.” <sup>38</sup> “You don’t know what you are asking,” Jesus said. “Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?” <sup>39</sup> “We can,” they answered. Jesus said to them, “You will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with, <sup>40</sup> but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared.” <sup>41</sup> When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John. <sup>42</sup> Jesus called them together and said, “You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. <sup>43</sup> Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, <sup>44</sup> and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. <sup>45</sup> For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

“One of the very first things we learn as we begin to pursue the spiritual life is that everything we can see and touch is temporal. Everything is changing and everything that changes eventually passes away, including us. There is no security or lasting happiness in anything that passes away so it makes no sense to attach to them as if there is. Trying to hold on to temporal things is like trying to carry water in a bucket filled with holes or trying to satisfy our thirst with sea water. A good deal of suffering has its origin in the vain pursuit of the perfect relationship, the perfect job, the perfect house, the right perfume. We never find them, but in the event that we think we do, at some point they no longer satisfy or disappear altogether. **James and John** sought to ensure their own security and happiness in the Lord's coming kingdom, but they did not understand what they were asking for. The greatest in the kingdom, Jesus taught, would be the least among the brethren, the most humble, not the most exalted and powerful. As all of them would learn in the coming days, Jesus leads from the throne of Extreme Humility, that is, the Cross, and not from a throne of earthly power. What James and John were asking for they would not really want. They were asking to share in the humiliation and death Christ would suffer and Jesus assures them that they would. But to sit at his right and left hand was not his to promise....

.....**Mary of Egypt's** pilgrimage in the desert was the opposite of the call to worldly power and happiness. She left everything behind to reconstruct her life through absolute abstinence and self-denial. She sought not to master others, but to master herself. In fact, that is the rule we must follow: master yourself; love and serve your neighbor. So, Christ tells us “Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to everlasting life.” And “seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness”. Don't attach to things that are dying, but to things that are undying. Since the kingdom of heaven is within, that is where we must search. Matthew the Poor, the great Egyptian monk and ascetic, wrote that the only place we can meet God is within. It is a theme throughout the writings of the Orthodox spiritual writers. When we begin to turn within to discover what is there, after a while we discover a great secret: we discover that there is something within us that is also undying! The core and center of who we are is undying and unchanging: the image of God and the Kingdom of heaven. .... The spiritual life is about finding that center and learning to remain there. It is nothing less than the kingdom of heaven. This is what Mary of Egypt discovered. When the storm of her lust subsided, she became still and serene like the depths of the sea and the deep, blue sky. How else could she have survived all those years in the desert? Through this divine discovery we become like yeast hidden in a loaf of bread. The whole world is blessed by our experience of the Grace of God. Leaving behind our dysfunctional ways of life, cleansing our hearts, rewiring our brains, putting on the mind of Christ, our lives begin to mirror nothing less than the Divine Life that already exists within us and the benefits we gain for ourselves reverberate for everyone else. We serve the world by serving the Lord and laying down our lives for all..... No where are we commanded to rule like autocrats over anyone. We are called to love and to serve from the center, from the heart.”

*Fr. Antony Hughes* <https://www.stmaryorthodoxchurch.org/orthodoxy/sermons/2011/fifth-sunday-of-lent>



**Pastor:** Rev. Mykhaylo Shkyndya  
**Cantors:** Brian Goshorn, John  
Danovich, Suzanne Goshorn  
**Business Manager:** John  
Danovich 317-538-7444  
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**Cell Phone** (Fr. Mykhaylo):  
216-532-6364

**Weekend Divine Services**

**Saturday:** 5 PM Vespers  
**Sunday:** 8:15 AM Matins  
10 AM Divine Liturgy

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